ES 103 – Fundamentals of Environmental Science
Spring 2017

Class Time: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 4:10 – 5:00 pm
Location: Culpin Room
Name of Faculty: Professor Jill Brown
Contact details: jill.brown@wku.edu
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 10-11am; Tuesday & Thursday 1-2pm. Other times available by appointment.

Course Description
ES 103 Fundamentals of Environmental Science (3)
This course studies the interdisciplinary nature of problems relating to the human environment, including social, political, and economic aspects.

Credit Hour Policy Statement
This class meets the federal credit hour policy of:
- Standard lecture – e.g. 1 hour of class with an expected 2 hours of additional student work outside of class each week for approximately 15 weeks for each hour of credit, or a total of 45-75 hours for each credit.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
– Nelson Mandela

General Education Objective
This course meets the General Education requirements for:
Outcome 8: Scientific Literacy

“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.” – Albert Einstein

Learning Objectives
Listed below are the Learning Objectives for the course:

- Describe the differences between sustainability and environmental science
- Explain the three “E’s” of sustainability, with the goal of proposing applications that are relevant, both locally and globally, to the 21st century
- Describe the role of sustainability in balancing present and future needs
- Describe the contemporary environmental conditions and problems driving the environmental science discipline
- Show an understanding of the scientific method and knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our lives
- Discuss the categories of ecological systems and their interrelations
- Explain the differences and connections between ground and surface water systems
- Classify categories of pollution and describe the implications for the environment
- Explain the difference between climate change and weather
- Describe the three main categories of energy resources (renewable, non-renewable fossil fuel, unclear), including their differences, similarities, pros/cons
- Outline the contemporary trends in human population and development, and draw conclusions with respect to implications for future environmental change.
- Explain the interrelationship between food production inputs (i.e. soils, fertilizers, climate, water) and outputs (i.e. crop yield, environmental degradation).
- Describe how natural and human-induced factors influence climate change, and discuss the key scientific issues associated with interpreting climate-related data.

Further Information about the Course

FIELD TRIPS: We will take advantage of our location by getting out of the classroom for field trips. On the Harlaxton grounds we will be able to access Grantham Canal and Denton Reservoir. We will be attending the following Wednesday local field trips: 4 Feb - Rutland Water, 15 Feb - Sherwood, and 5 Apr - Clumber Park. There will be assignments associated with the field trips.

“Wherever you go, go with all your heart.” – Confucius

TECHNOLOGY: Students should have basic computer skills, be able to navigate on the Internet, and be able to send and receive e-mails.

Blackboard: Blackboard will be used for announcements, PowerPoints, handouts, and grades, among other things. You will be responsible for looking on Blackboard prior to each class meeting, printing the handouts and PowerPoints, and bringing them to class. Grades on Blackboard are for your information and may not reflect the most up-to-date grades; the instructor keeps a copy of the official grades for each student.

E-mail: Be sure to have access to your Harlaxton e-mail address. This form of communication will be used to contact individuals during the semester. All students should be familiar with proper e-mail etiquette, such as addressing the recipient (Ms. Brown), using correct grammar and spelling, and signing your name. E-mails are answered Monday through Friday during office hours.

Submitting Questions Electronically: Questions that apply to the whole class should be submitted through discussion board in the general Q & A (question and answer) forum in Blackboard. Students can answer each other’s questions on discussion board. Examples of questions that apply to the whole class include: questions regarding assignments, the exams, and lecture material. Questions that apply only to you should be submitted via e-mail; for example: questions regarding grades or absences.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR POLICY: Disruptive behavior includes talking during class, uncontrolled outbursts, technology abuse, coming in late, etc. Besides being rude, this type of behavior disrupts the sharing of knowledge in the classroom. Disruptive behavior will evoke one verbal warning, then one conference, then a written notification that the person is violating the intellectual integrity of the class, and then the student will be permanently removed from the classroom.

Lateness: A major disruption to the class is people coming in late. If people habitually show up late, then the door will be locked after the class starts. Leaving Class: Students who get up and leave in the middle of class are disruptive to the flow of the class when they leave and when they return. Be sure to use the bathroom, get a drink and do whatever you need to do before class begins.

“Behavior is the mirror in which everyone shows their image.” - Johann Wolfgang von Goeth

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM (cell phones, headphones, bluetooth ear pieces, ipods, MP3 Players, etc.): All personal technology is to be turned off and put away during the class. Use of the above items during class is distracting to classmates as well as to the teacher. There have been many complaints from students about classmates using their cell phones in class. There will be consequences for abuse of this in-class rule. Photos of lecture material are not an adequate
replacement for taking notes. For this reason and for other student’s privacy, no one is allowed to take photos during class. If a student uses any of the above technology in class, then there will be a pop quiz or you will be asked to leave. Excessive problems will result in use of the disruptive behavior policy.

Schedule of topics

- Intro to Environmental Science & Sustainability
- Biodiversity
- Population & Development
- Agriculture
- Water
- Waste Management
- Energy
- Atmosphere & Air Pollution
- Climate

Teaching Methods

**Textbook:** Students are not required to purchase a textbook, however, students are obligated to watch, listen to, and read material outside of class that is related to course content.

**Teaching Methods:** Fundamentals of Environmental Science is taught through lectures, using either longhand notes on the board or presentation format. In-class activities, individual and group, are used to reinforce material from lectures.

Schedule of Assignments

- **3 Exams:** Week 6, Week 11, & Finals Week

In-class activities will occur randomly throughout the semester.

Students are expected to keep up with assignments outside of class, whether that is reading, watching, or listening to outside material, or even logging travel experiences.
Assessment and Grading Criteria

3 Exams = 80%
Assignments: In-Class Activities & Other Assignments = 20%
Total = 100%

Exams: There will be 3 exams. Any of the following types of questions could be on the tests: multiple choice, matching, fill in the blank, short answer, definitions & examples, essay, and place locations on a map. There will be assigned seats during the exams.

Assignments: Out of class assignments may occur at any time during the semester. The out of class assignments may be assigned in class or announced on Blackboard. There will be numerous assignments throughout the semester that will require textbook reading and access to the Internet.

In-Class Activities: There will be various opportunities for points during the class meetings. Students must be present and prepared for class to receive credit for in class activities. Activities include, but are not limited to: map activities, assorted quizzes (vocabulary, previous class material, reading material), hypothesis development, steps of the scientific method, essays and writing assignments, bringing required materials and being prepared for a pre-announced in class activity, participation, random attendance days, as well as field trips. In-class activities cannot be made-up if missed.

Policies for Making Up Missed Work:
Exam make-up policy: Students who miss an exam must adhere to the following criteria in order to have an individual make-up exam:
Instructor must be notified before the in-class scheduled exam takes place.
Exam must be made up within two days of the missed exam. Monday-Saturday.
Student must have a valid excuse for missing the exam. Validity is up to the instructor. Students who do not adhere to the above criteria will take a comprehensive final that counts as two exam grades, the missed exam and the final exam.

In-class activities Cannot be made up if missed.

Attendance Policy

Harlaxton College operates a mandatory attendance policy that is binding on all faculty and students:
The number of unexcused absences that are allowed before incurring a penalty is related to the number of times a class meets during a week. This means that for courses which meet three times a week students are allowed a maximum of three unexcused absences during the semester without attracting penalty points, for courses meeting twice a week two such absences are permitted, and for courses meeting just once a week a single absence is allowed.
Additional unexcused absences will attract a grade penalty of 2% per absence.

Additionally, absences will affect your grade negatively by missing opportunities to earn a percentage of your grade. During the semester a variety of points can be earned through in-class activities, participation, and random attendance. In-class activities cannot be made up. When students miss a class with point assigned class work or attendance, they forfeit the points; therefore missed class could equal missed points, which will lower a grade.
Attendance will be recorded at the beginning and/or the end of each class. If you are late, then it is your responsibility to let the instructor know that you attended class at the end of the class meeting. Do not interrupt the class in order to tell the instructor that you came in late.

Students who miss class are responsible for obtaining the lecture notes from other students. Once the missed material is reviewed, the student should see the instructor outside of class regarding information that needs clarification.

“Eighty percent of success is showing up.” – Woody Allen

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<th>Drop/Add and Withdrawal Policy</th>
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<td>There is normally about a 10 day period at the beginning of semester what a student may drop and class and/or add a class. The deadline date is published in the Semester Guidance handbook. Drop/Add forms are available from the library and completed forms should be returned to the same place. Faculty signatures are required for all classes being added.</td>
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Students may withdraw from a class, with the exception of British Studies, for a longer period of time. Again the deadline date is published in the Semester Guidance handbook. Forms are available from the College Secretary, to whom completed forms should be returned. Forms must be signed by the faculty member of the class being withdrawn from and the Principal. **All students must register for, and be continuously enrolled in, 12 credit hours of study to be eligible to study at Harlaxton and remain in the United Kingdom.**

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<td>It is the policy of the University of Evansville (Harlaxton College) to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. University of Evansville students should contact the Office of Counselling and Health Education to seek help with this. Students from Partner Universities/Colleges should contact their own relevant student support office. For assistance whilst at Harlaxton students should contact the College Secretary whose office is located adjacent to the Principal’s office. Written notification to faculty from the College Secretary is required for academic accommodations to be implemented.</td>
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Honour Code

All students at the University of Evansville (Harlaxton College) agree to and are bound by the principles and practice of the honor code:

‘I understand that any work I submit for course credit will imply that I have adhered to this Academic Honor Code: I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid, nor will I tolerate an environment that condones the use of unauthorized aid.’

The full Honor Code is available online:
https://www.evansville.edu/offices/deanstudents/downloads/honorcode.pdf

CHEATING/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:  There is ZERO tolerance for cheating. Students that are caught cheating will be dropped from the course with an F. This includes cheating on tests, copying another student’s homework, forged excuses, and plagiarism in written papers.

When writing a paper, copying another person’s work without giving credit is PLAGIARISM (this includes photographs, written words, and another student’s paper). If you copy the exact words of another person and give credit, it is still plagiarism unless you indicate which words are yours and which are the other person’s through the use of quotation marks. A good rule of thumb is not to use more than three consecutive words of another’s work and rephrase the rest of the ideas into your own words. All assignments in this class are to be written in your own words. The writing assignments in this class are short, so no quotes are allowed.

“Time will inevitably uncover dishonesty and lies, history has no place for them.” – Norodom Sihanouk